

The Polish Review



NEW SERIES OF POLAND'S WAR STAMPS

Polish postal service was re-established on December 15th, 1941 and is operating on Polish Merchant and warships under the Universal Postage Convention. Letters posted in Polish Merchantmen on high seas and warships wherever they may be, are franked with Polish stamps and distributed all over the world. These stamps are a boon to stamp collectors and are certain to rank in time among most valuable and interesting specimens.

The first series issued on December 15th, 1941, consisted of eight stamps showing views of Poland at war and under German occupation. It was limited to one issue and is now almost exhausted. It is being replaced by a new series, also of eight stamps. They illustrate the Polish war effort since 1939 and Polish underground resistance. Official currency in Poland being zloty all these stamps have zloty face value. Six of the new stamps depict the armed effort of Poles in various theatres of war operations.

The five groszy stamp shows a Wellington bomber of the Polish coastal command squadron attacking a German U-boat. It depicts an actual incident in the Biscay Bay as described by Polish airmen who sank the U-boat in June, 1942.

The ten groszy stamp illustrates the Polish war effort on the high seas, showing ships of the Polish Merchant Marine steaming in convoy. Two Polish sailors are seen training their Lewis machine gun on a German bomber attacking the convoy. The part played by the Polish Navy was portrayed in the former series by a stamp showing the famous Polish submarine "Orzel."

The 25 groszy stamp commemorates the fight put up by Polish troops in the Battle of France. It is a grim and symbolic picture of an anti-tank gun in action engaged in a gallant but hopeless effort against superior odds.

The 55 groszy stamp depicts the part played by Polish forces in the Battle of Norway. It shows two Polish soldiers perched on a rock above the Narvik Fjord. The design is particularly beautiful and vividly conveys the impression of a desperate struggle in a setting of magnificent scenery.

The 75 groszy stamp brings us to the Middle East and memories of the desert war in which the Polish Carpathian Brigade distinguished itself especially in the defence of Tobruk during its long siege of 1941. The drawing is particularly fine, and especially that of the silhouettes of four Polish soldiers returning from patrol duty, the leader exchanging

American Jews in Cracow Exterminated by the Gestapo

All American citizens in Cracow, German capital of Occupied Poland, who were classed as Jews by the Germans, have been shot by the Gestapo, after being forced to dig their own graves. The news was carried in the latest issue of the Polish underground newspaper, "Nowe Drogi," copies of which have just reached England. These mass-murders are in line with the German threats to "exterminate" all Jews, Poles and Russians if a German defeat becomes imminent.

GDYNIA DAMAGE GREAT, GERMAN WARSHIP SUNK

Great damage was done to the harbor of Gdynia by American Flying Fortresses on the 9th of October. The harbor was the chief target. Many direct hits were scored on the Main, Wilson and President docks. Several bombs fell in residential quarters inhabited only by the Germans.

Immediately after the raid the Germans isolated Gdynia, putting up a smoke screen in an attempt to conceal damage from any reconnaissance aircraft. Danzig newspapers of the 10th of October did not mention a word about the Gdynia raid, but reports from Poland confirm that the raid caused great despair among the Germans while the Poles who have been forced to live only in suburbs, which were not affected by the bombing, were highly delighted.

Further details have been given by the crew of the Swedish collier "Fernstroem" sunk at Gdynia during the raid. The crew reached a Swedish port. They report eight vessels were sunk in the Gdynia harbor, five of them German, another fifteen ships were seriously damaged. A ten-thousand ton German pocket battleship was sunk and also a smaller naval vessel, which was in a floating dock for repair.

Extremely concentrated bombing of the coal harbor in Gdynia lasted about twenty minutes. Quays and cranes were almost completely destroyed.

a friendly greeting with the Commander of a passing British tank, in the left-hand corner of the stamp a signpost says in English and in Polish "To the Headquarters of the Polish Brigade in Tobruk."

The 80 groszy stamp is also of great historical interest. It portrays the last visit of the late Gen. Sikorski to Polish forces in the Middle East. The General is seen talking to Polish soldiers dressed in tropical kit. It is one of his last pictures taken shortly before he met his untimely death in Gibraltar.

The one zloty and one and half zloty stamps are perhaps the most striking of the whole series. They

STORY OF HOW SQUADRON 303 GOT 200TH PLANE

Polish headquarters have released the story of an air-battle that took place in August. A wing made up of the 303 Kosciuszko and Warsaw Squadrons, took off to cover a raid on targets in France. It was led by Squadron Leader Falkowski of 303.

After crossing the Channel they contacted the bombers they had been sent to escort. En route information was picked up that two groups of enemy aircraft were in the air and a third over the target.

The Polish Squadron Leader ordered the wing to increase speed and get there before the bombers. Reaching the target, the Polish Fighters circled round and soon spotted twelve Messerschmidts flying towards the Allied bomber formation. The Warsaw Squadron attacked the enemy immediately and after a short fight sent two Messerschmidts crashing down in flames. 303 Squadron circling above noticed another group of eight Messerschmidts and eight Focke Wulfs flying in formation of twos and moving round to come upon the bombers from the rear, and swooped upon them.

A furious fight ensued at an altitude of 16 to 20,000 feet in which five Focke Wulfs were shot down. Among the five pilots who reported victories were Falkowski, and the youngest pilot of the 303 Pilot Officer Sliwinski. It was his first enemy plane, which brought the Squadron's record up to 200.

have no parallel in philatelic history. They portray the Polish underground resistance movement, unique in Europe for its strength and magnitude. The former shows Polish patriots destroying a railway track running through a forest in an outlying district of Poland. Two men are loosening the rails, while the third one is keeping watch with a revolver in his hand. Note his tense features and the concentrated strength of his bearing conveying impression of grim determination.

Last stamp of the series shows the printing "Department" of a Polish underground paper in an attic. The name of the paper is "Rzeczpospolita Polska" (the Po-

HAMBURG DEAD IN JULY RAIDS WERE 130,000

People from Hamburg evacuated to Poland state that during the July raids 130,000 people were killed in Hamburg. Main part of the city has been destroyed. Dockyard work has been reduced to the minimum and only men kept there by force are still working. At the railway junction work was not recommended until August 13th. Hamburg's citizens curse Goering and the Nazis and hope Berlin will share Hamburg's fate.

Masses of Germans from bombed areas in the Reich are still flocking into Poland, chiefly to Silesia, and Pomorze causing tension and spreading defeatism. Lately three thousand people from Hamburg were settled in Cieszyn. In order to make room for them, Poles were forcibly evicted from their homes, men deported to forced labor in Germany, women and children to concentration camps.

There are frequent clashes causing bloodsheds between the Germans and the Poles. This tension brought on by the influx of evacuees forced the Germans to reinforce the SS garrisons in Silesia. The spirit of defeatism is rampant among the bombed out Germans, and Goebbel's counter propaganda is having little effect.

Pomerze panic spread by their tales assumed such proportions that Gauleiter Forster ordered the Hamburg evacuees to be isolated from the rest of the German population there "so that they should not be infected with defeatism." Forster threatened that if this isolation does not "improve the evacuees morale" he will take most drastic steps and order death penalty by hanging.

The extent of defeatist atmosphere can be judged by the fact that in some places stormy street demonstrations occurred. When a special train with evacuees reached Bydgoszcz local Germans in a flagbedecked lorry turned out to greet them. The speakers were attacked and beaten by furious Hamburgers.

lish Republic). Its circulation is said to run to 20,000 and it has had as many as four editions a day, a remarkable achievement in the circumstances. Note the revolver lying on the stack of papers, symbol of the danger to which the editors and printers are constantly exposed, and also the truly beautiful head of the young girl whose task is probably to distribute the paper under the nose of the Gestapo.

The new series illustrates vividly the various aspects of the Polish war effort since Poland's occupation and in conjunction with the first series it constitutes a collection of unique historical and philatelic interest.

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POLAND FIGHTS

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DEPORTEES FROM POLAND

by ELMA DANGERFIELD*

IT is estimated that there are over 1,500,000 Polish deportees in Germany today. Another 1,000,000 Poles, about half of them women and children, were deported by the Russians after the occupation of Eastern Poland by the Red Army in September, 1939. They included peasants, foresters and agricultural workers as well as Government officials. Many Polish families of the professional classes were also deported to the Russian interior during the spring and summer of 1940.

The mother of one of these families tells the following story: In 1939 they were staying for the summer in the country near Lwow. After Russian troops invaded Poland on September 17th, they took refuge in Lwow, where they felt they would be safer.

From February, 1940, this particular family lived in daily dread of deportation, as all temporary settlers in Lwow—artisans, agricultural workers, foresters and farmers—were being rounded up nightly and transported for labor to Russia. In April some of their friends among the "intellectuals" began to disappear, and each night they dreaded to hear a knock on their door and to find their names on the list of deportees. At last it came, in April, after midnight, when three members of the N.K.W.D. (formerly the G.P.U.) came into their house, calling out their names, which they read from a prescribed list, ordering them to get out of bed at once, pack up all they could carry, and be ready to go in half an hour. The father and mother and their daughters aged fourteen, sixteen and seventeen, and the mother's sister, with her children, aged two and three, obeyed, but refused to disturb their grandmother of seventy-four, who had been bedridden for five years. At first the Russian police insisted that she should accompany them, but when her family offered to die rather than move her, they gave way and left the old woman behind.

They were then piled into a railway truck with twenty-one others and sent from Lwow towards the Russian frontier with 1,000 other deportees. For four days they traveled without food or water, except for what they had brought with them. When at last they were allowed out at a station



Deported to Russia.

to drink from a pool they did so ravenously, like animals. After that, two of them were allowed out once a day to fetch a small amount of bread and water at each station, but it was quite insufficient for the number of people in their truck.

For eighteen days they traveled thus, the sanitary arrangements consisting of a hole in the floor, and the only light and ventilation coming through two small windows high up in the truck, by which they guessed the time of day and the direction in which they were going. The lack of air in the congested truck caused much discomfort and exhaustion, but they all kept up their spirits by making friends with each other and recounting their tragic stories. The mother had fortunately brought an atlas with her, so that from the glimpses of the country which they got through the windows they could surmise where they were. At length, after nearly three weeks, the train stopped at Kazakstan, where the sealed trucks were opened and the deportees told to get out.

(Please turn to page 4)

* CONDENSED FROM "THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND AFTER," VOL. CXXXIV, JULY, 1943.
LONDON.

D E P O R T E E S F R O M P O L A N D

(Continued from page 3)

They were then piled one on top of the other in motor cars which drove them 70 miles over mud-flooded roads for twenty-four hours into the mountains. There they were ejected and told to live as best they could. When they asked where and how, the Russian guard said that was their concern, and that they must find food and shelter for themselves. Luckily they found a disused Mongol hut, on the earthen floor of which they flung themselves exhausted—fifteen of them heaped together—all of them worn out—bruised and buffeted by their journey.

Next day they set about trying to make the hut habitable and to discover means of subsistence, which, so they found, meant walking some miles to the nearest village where they could barter what they had brought for bread and milk for the small children. When this was unobtainable the children took to eating earth which caused dysentery and severe stomach disorders.

Meanwhile all the able-bodied deportees—both men and women—were ordered by the local Russian authorities to work on the cattle farms under Mongol overseers. This consisted of hard manual labor, carting and stacking of manure heaps and dung-bricks, looking after the cattle, and working as farm laborers from eight to eleven hours a day. For this they were supposed to be paid about five roubles a day (although a bowl of cabbage soup cost 4.80 roubles). But in reality the wages were paid to the Mongol overseers, who did not give a rouble to the deportees, so they had nothing except a meagre allowance of black bread and occasional soup or what they could barter from the villagers. However, the Mongols did not actually ill-treat them, except for shouting and abusing them coarsely on every possible occasion, and intimidating the girls. They endured enough, however, from continual hunger and under-nourishment, sleeping on the bare earth with no furniture or bedding of any kind, in cattle sheds full of dirt, dung, lice and vermin. For they actually had to live with the cattle in winter, when it was impossible to be out of doors owing to the intense cold. Ice formed on their eyeballs as they stepped out into the open, and if they stopped moving for an instant their bodies became stiff with cold. In summer the heat was so intense that it was a veritable inferno, and working in the scorching sun gave many of them sunstroke. There was also the constant irritation of flies, gnats, and insects, owing to the complete lack of all sanitation and their proximity to the cattle. Dysentery and stomach disorders were prevalent in the summer as well as malaria, which became an epidemic. In the winter everyone suffered from chills, bronchitis, and pneumonia, and there was no medical aid available. Everyone therefore went on working as long as they could, as those who were too ill or old to work received no food, and the young and healthy had to share their scanty rations with them. The older people helped their families by doing the cooking and stoking up the fires with dung-bricks in winter. They tried to make some kind of a home for their children to return to after a back-breaking day's work, when the young girls would sob with pain from their aching bodies worn out with over-exertion on the farms.

Another group of deportees were sent down in the Siberian Taiga to the north of the Trans-Siberian Railway in the district between Tomsk, Krasnoyarsk and Yeniseisk.



Waiting for hot water. At a camp for Polish women in Russia in 1941.

where they had to do heavy forestry work. They lived in barracks with the foresters and other Polish and Russian exiles, some of whom had been there for ten years. The chief food, supplied by the Russian authorities, was a porridge of oats or homemade macaroni, which caused severe digestive troubles. Their earnings were so low that they lived entirely from selling any of their few remaining personal possessions. But the separation of families—husbands from wives—parents from children—and the lack of all religious comfort (although they were not prohibited from observing their faith, actually no priests were available) appears to have caused even greater mental suffering than the sheer physical discomforts and malnutrition. There was, however, a very high death-rate amongst the deportees. It is estimated that between 200,000 and 300,000 have perished. Information shows that mortality was greatest amongst those children who were deported to the Urals, where the climate is most severe—Arctic cold in the winter, and tropical heat in the summer. The chief food consisted of salted herrings, mushrooms, berries, and roots, which the children collected and dug up for themselves. Milk, honey and eggs could be bought from the local peasants, but the wages paid were not sufficient for such luxuries, as an egg cost 1 rouble, and the work of stripping bark from trees from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. was only paid for by a maximum of 5 roubles a day. As no one could pick sufficient quantity of bark to earn this amount the rate was decreased, and even a strong man could not earn enough to keep himself. A weak or sick woman could frequently only earn 1 rouble a day for herself and her children. Chronic rheumatism was not regarded as sufficient reason for not working, nor were lung or pulmonary affections, on the principle that "those who could not work should not eat."

Shortly after the Agreement signed on July 30th, 1941, between Poland and Russia, under which the Soviet Government agreed to release all Polish subjects who had been deported into the Russian interior, a Social Welfare Department was attached to the Polish Embassy at Kuibyshev. Food and clothing and medical supplies were sent to them by the British and American Governments and the Red

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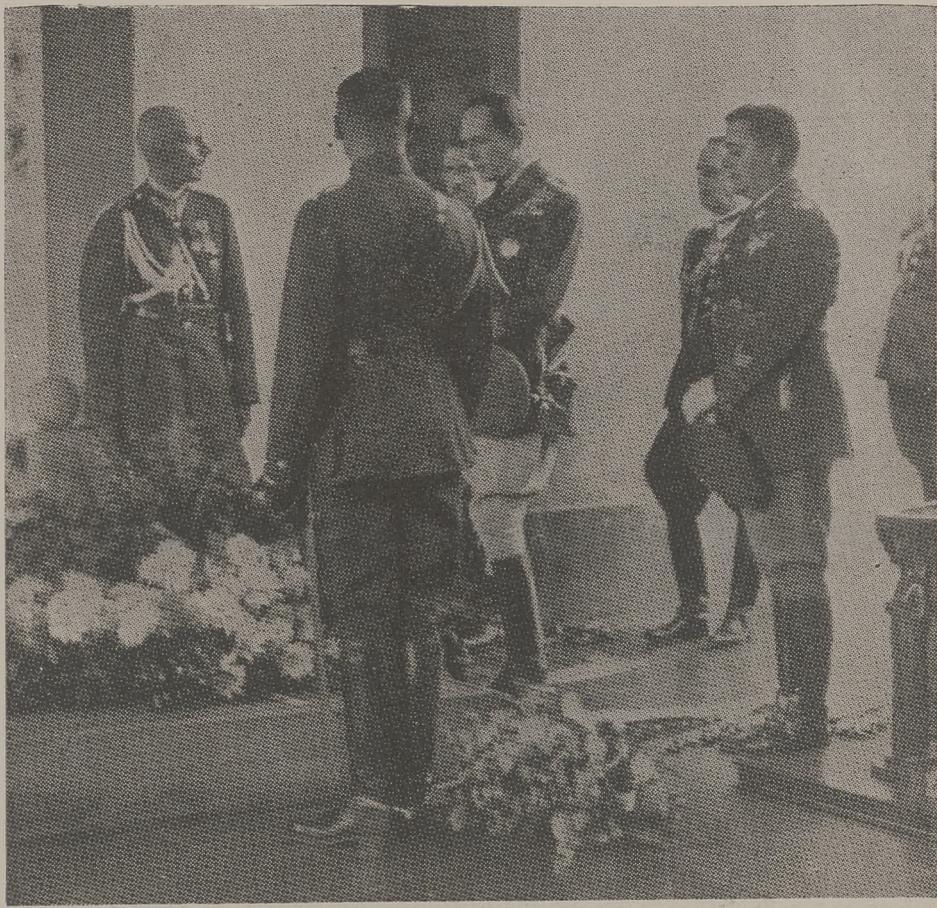
GENERAL MACARTHUR'S VISIT TO POLAND

GENERAL Douglas MacArthur, now commander of the Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific, visited Poland in 1932 as American Chief of Staff. He arrived in Warsaw, the Polish capital, on the afternoon of September 7th and was met at the station by high Polish and American officers. After the playing of the American National Anthem, General MacArthur inspected the guard of honor.

The same evening General MacArthur left with military attachés of other countries for Volhynia to attend the military maneuvers there. Two Polish divisions—infantry, artillery and cavalry—were already in position. General MacArthur went everywhere and saw everything, and followed the maneuvers with the discerning eye of a military expert. A cavalryman himself, he took particular interest in the Polish cavalry, praised its skill and admired its horses. One could see that he would have liked to ride with them.

In the afternoon General MacArthur visited the famous stables of Count Potocki. The pure bred Arabs interested him most. He asked whether he could try one and the Polish cavalrymen present admired his skill on horseback. His good sportsmanship made him many friends.

After the manoeuvres a reception was given in his honor at which toasts were exchanged. The Polish commander praised MacArthur's soldierly qualities and pledges of Polish-American friendship were re-



General MacArthur placing a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Warsaw, in 1932.



General MacArthur watching Polish Army maneuvers in Volhynia, 1932.

newed. General MacArthur spoke in English, and expressed his high appreciation of the progress the Polish army had made in equipment and training. Realizing that the Polish Army had been formed out of nothing, General MacArthur said, the Polish soldiers and particularly the cavalry had shown themselves to be first class. His remarks were greeted with loud cheers. Thus another link was added to the chain of Polish-American friendship.

On September 10th, General MacArthur was back in Warsaw. In the morning he placed a wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. In the afternoon he was received by Marshal Pilsudski and in honor of his visit to Poland was invested with the Grand Cordon of "Polonia Restituta." His adjutant, Captain Davis, received the Cross of the same order.

General MacArthur remained in Poland two more days during which he visited the airfield in Warsaw and attended receptions given in his honor. During his short visit he made many friends both among soldiers and civilians.

In April, 1942, the Polish Government in London with the consent of President Roosevelt conferred upon General Douglas MacArthur, the highest Polish military decoration, the "Virtuti Militari" First Class to show its appreciation of his immortal defense of the Philippines.

Poland's highest award for valor, Order of "Virtuti Militari," dates back to 1792, in the reign of Poland's last King, Stanislaw August. The First Class of the Order was originally conferred upon only six persons, among them Marshal Foch, King Albert of Belgium and King Alexander of Yugoslavia. The "Virtuti Militari" was also awarded to the city of Lwow for its glorious defense in 1918-1920 and to the city of Verdun in France. General MacArthur has been awarded the highest honor Poland can grant a soldier.

A Page from the History of Polish Tolerance: Comenius in Poland



Examp M.S. G Glouer sc

Loc. here an Exile who to serve his God
Hath sharply tasted of proud Pashur Rd.
Whose learning Piety, & true worth being known
To all the world makes all the world his own
FQ

THE name of Johann Amos Comenius, or *Comenius* (1592-1671) as he is commonly called, holds an important place in the history of education. A reformer who attacked the pedantic teaching of his day and insisted that words and things must be learned together, he introduced a new point of view into pedagogy. He held that languages should be taught in the vernacular, with illustrations and object lessons that they might be learned quickly, easily and pleasurable. Criticizing the restricted scholastic course of study, he included singing, economy, politics, world history, geography, science, arts and handicraft in his curriculum.

To quote himself *Comenius* was "a Moravian by birth and a Czech by language." Faith willed it, however, that because of his religious beliefs, he spent the major part of his adult life in exile. For *Comenius* was also a theologian, a member of the persecuted Moravian and Bohemian Brethren, who later became the last Bishop of this Order.

Catholic Poland granted refuge to Protestant *Comenius* and his co-religionists when they were forced to flee Bohemia in 1628 as a result of the Spanish invasion. It was in Poland that *Comenius* lived from 1628 to 1656, except for visits to England, Sweden, Elbling and Hungary. And it was in Poland and with Polish help that *Comenius* published the works expounding his theories that gave him international fame and teaching a much needed reform.

It was only natural that *Comenius* and the Moravian and Bohemian Brethren should turn to Poland for asylum. The Poles liked these fellow-Slavs for their probity and morality.

A contemporary Polish chronicler expressed the sentiments of his countrymen when he wrote: "Neither Bohemia nor Moravia knows what kind of inhabitants they have, for did they know, these countries would honor and love them better." Furthermore, victims of religious and political persecution were always sure to find sanctuary in tolerant Poland, where the principle of *Habeas Corpus* had been law since 1430. Thus, in the 13th century, when the Jews were being massacred elsewhere, Poland welcomed them to her domain. When the religious war broke out among the Czechs in the 15th century, Poland took in Hussite refugees. A century later, *Ferdinand I* ordered all Protestants to leave Bohemia within 42 days. Again Poland opened her doors to the *Moravian* and *Bohemian Brethren* who were forced to go into exile.

And now in the 17th century, the Thirty Years War was bringing a new stream of refugees to Poland. Among the Protestant Czechs who flocked to Poland were fine craftsmen—cabinet makers, bricklayers, pot-makers, carpenters, weavers, etc. Many were taken into Catholic homes and accepted by the Catholic clergy at a time when the counter reformation was sweeping Poland. Many remained in Poland, married and became Polonized.

Comenius settled in *Leszno*, western Poland, in 1628. But this was not his first trip to that country. Three years earlier, he had been delegated by the *Bohemian* and *Moravian Brethren* to request permission of *Rafal Leszczynski*, owner of *Leszno*, for the *Brethren* to migrate thither in the event of intensified persecution of non-Catholics in Bohemia. Permission was granted, and on February 8, 1628, the first Czech refugee arrived in *Leszno*. *Comenius* brought with him *Krystyna Poniatowska*, daughter of a former Polish Catholic priest who had adopted the new religion and moved to Bohemia, where he joined the *Brethren*. This girl, suffering from a nervous ailment, had visions which the mystically inclined *Comenius* later published in a book, *Lux e tenebris novis radiis aucta* (1665). The first group of refugees was soon followed by a new throng of exiles. To look after their welfare personally, *Rafal Leszczynski* came from distant Ruthenia, where he had been living the past 15 years.

Although *Leszno* was not a large town, it boasted a secondary school founded in 1555 by the grandfather of *Rafal Leszczynski*. While *Comenius* was rector of a school at *Fulnek*, Moravia, he had written his first pedagogical work—in Czech. What then could be more logical than to give *Comenius* a post as a teacher at the *Leszno* school? Teaching Latin at the *gimnazjum*, *Comenius* became aware of the lack of the right type of school books. He promptly drew up a plan for setting up a printshop and printing new textbooks. The *gimnazjum* authorities enthusiastically endorsed the project.

But to carry out his aims, *Comenius* required more than approval and understanding. He needed the wherewithal for experimentation and research: money. So, he turned to the man who had befriended him and his fellow-exiles, *Rafal Leszczynski*. His benefactor, being a man of parts, readily consented to back the Moravian educator. The first step was to edit manuals used by the young *Leszno* scholars. *Comenius*, as he himself put it, hoped to repay at least by this small gift, the hospitality he received "because it is the duty of the grateful guest to balance the benefactions of hospitality by even the humblest service."

As his pedagogic horizon widened and his exile showed no sign of coming to an end, *Comenius* came to *Leszczynski* with other proposals. He showed his patron his didactic works and *Leszczynski* is said to have stated after reading the Great *Didactic*: "I see a machine ready for use, allow me to be the first to set it in motion." It was under his



Didactica by Comenius. Begun in *Leszno* (1627), completed in *Amsterdam* (1657).

auspices that the *Didactic*, which did not appear complete until 1657 in *Amsterdam*, began to be printed at *Leszno*. At *Leszczynski*'s suggestion *Comenius*'s book on early education, *Schola infantiae*, was translated from the Czech. The translation was dedicated to *Leszczynski*.

In 1631 *Comenius* published *Janua linguarum reserata*. In 100 titles and 1,000 sentences he carried out a close "marriage" between the study of Latin and the study of things. Because *Janua* proved too difficult for beginners, he added in 1633 a *Vestibulum* worked up along the same lines. *Janua* was an instant success and was translated into Greek, Czech, Polish, German, Swedish, Dutch, English, French, Spanish, Italian, Hungarian, Arabian, Turkish, Persian, and Mongolian. The second edition of the famous *Janua* was published in 1633 and dedicated to young *Leszczynski* with a mention of his father. In his introduction *Comenius* wrote that although his book was already so known in the world that it had served as a text for the Prince of Wales,

and he had been urged to offer it to royal hands, yet, moved by gratitude to his patron, to whom he owed so much, and unable to show his gratitude in any other way, he inscribed the second edition to his son as heir to his father's virtues. In 1633 *Comenius* published his *Castrum Securitatis*, also dedicated to *Leszczynski*.

Ill luck had it that in 1636 *Rafal Leszczynski* died, thereby putting an end to the plans he had made to print all of *Comenius*'s works at his expense "for the benefit of our Sarmatian fatherland and of our *Leszno* school, as well as of others that might wish to make use of them."

In a funeral oration *Comenius* extolled his benefactor: "Endowed by God with great talents, he educated himself by traveling in distant lands and frequenting worthwhile people. He spoke Polish, Latin, German, French, Italian with equal fluency, and understood Greek and Spanish. He was so versatile that he could discourse at length on almost any subject from geometry, astronomy, mechanics, architecture, music, chemistry, to history, ethics and politics."

In 1640 *Comenius* became rector of the *Leszno gimnazjum*. His teaching duties were limited to several hours of instruction a week, but his influence was felt in other ways, as when the students presented two dramas by him.

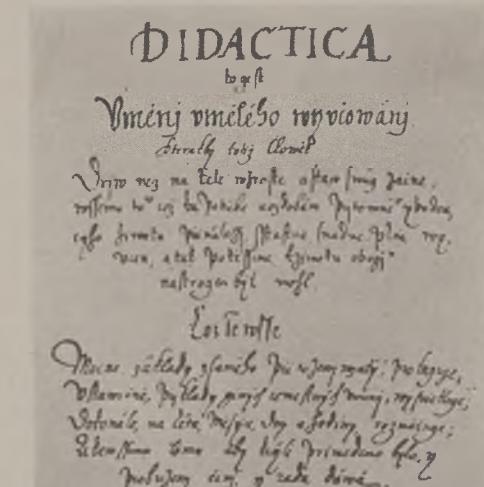
A year later, *Comenius* left *Leszno* for England. He returned after an absence of 8 years and busied himself with the publication of prepared manuscripts. It was then he entered into contact with *Krzesztof Opalinski*, Voivode of *Poznan*. *Opalinski* had come across *Comenius*'s work and although educated by scholastic methods himself, became very much interested in *Comenius*'s ideas. He was so impressed by their value that he introduced the Moravian exile's methods into the small *Opalinski gimnazjum* he founded at *Sierakowo* in 1650. Thus, this institution became the first school to be based on *Comenius*'s progressive theory of education, utilizing his books and methods. When *Comenius* later opened the famous *Szaroš-Patok* school in Hungary, it was modelled on the *Opalinski Gimnazjum*.

Comenius was feted by Polish Protestant circles, where his scholarship and pedagogical works had acquired great fame. Protestants sent their sons to him, offered him their help and encouragement. One of these, *Piotr Kochlewski*, a judge at *Brest-Litovsk*, was an ardent disciple of the educator and arranged for him to meet *Krzesztof Radziwill*, a Protestant magnate who offered *Comenius* one-fourth of his income toward his studies, if he would live on his estate.

However, *Comenius*'s success was not limited to the Protestants. His books were also introduced into Catholic schools, of the Piar Order in particular—an unheard of thing elsewhere in Europe.

In Poland, *Comenius* learned Polish and mastered it so well that he declared Czech, Polish and German to be his "linguae praeonatae" (best known to him). In his comparative language studies, outlined in the semi-linguistic work "*Methodus linguarum novissima*," he showed he understood Polish syntax and grammar. He considered Polish "especially developed for the precise expression of thoughts."

Comenius was 64 when he left *Leszno* for good. He had arrived there 28 years earlier a relatively unknown crusader, he departed an international celebrity. And although he was Polish neither in ancestry nor in temperament, Poland can rightfully be proud of the role she played in giving him an opportunity to be heard by the world of his day.



Page of the *Didactica* manuscript found in *Leszno* in 1841.

POLISH ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE OF PAST CENTURIES

by DR. IRENE PIOTROWSKA



CHURCH OF OUR LADY IN CRACOW. 14th cent.

EVER since the advent of Christianity in 966, Poland has always been closely connected with Western European culture. Polish art has always gone hand in hand with the art evolution of Western Europe. In Poland as there we distinguish the romanesque, gothic, renaissance, baroque, and classic periods, and the many art movements of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Foreign influences that reached Poland from various Western European countries were by no means limited to a single source; they came from Bohemia, from Belgium, from France, from Italy, the Netherlands, and Germany. But in spite of the common development of Polish art and that of the West, certain features took root in Poland more easily than others. Besides, at times a victorious struggle of Western influences with direct or indirect Eastern ones, earlier Byzantine, later Islamic, could be noticed. Moreover, guided by native predilection and inspired by native temperament, Polish artists tended to modify the adopted forms of art.

In architecture, for instance, the local variations of the various Western European styles were brought about by climatic conditions, the character of the landscape and the building materials available in Poland—wood and brick—, last but not least, by the fact that the builders, even when foreign architects designed the structure, were mostly local people accustomed to the peculiar features of Polish wooden dwellings, which might be traced back to the wooden architecture of prehistoric Poland, and have partly survived to this day in the peasant's homestead.

In Polish art, native and foreign elements exist side by side on a separate and even hostile footing, or intertwine

and mingle. The characteristically Polish decorative traits in architecture, and the tendency toward pensive lyricism in sculpture appear mostly in works of art produced far away from art centers by local artists who had only indirect and casual contact with the great art currents of contemporary Western Europe; at times however they shine victoriously through the pan-European forms created by Polish artists well acquainted with art evolution abroad, but who have not lost their national individuality.

To the oldest Polish architectural stone relics belongs the *Church of SS. Felix and Adauct*, a small rotunda, not so long ago excavated on the Wawel Hill in Cracow, and dating from the beginning of the 11th century. During this and the following century a number of romanesque monastic churches and monumental cathedrals were erected in Poland. Among Poland's most remarkable sculptures are the famous bronze doors (circa 1127) of Gniezno Cathedral. These doors are ornamented with bas-reliefs representing scenes from the life of St. Adalbert, patron of Poland. Twelfth-century chalices and other accessories used in divine worship, preserved before the war in the treasuries of many Polish churches, are embellished with engraved or embossed scenes closely related in style to the Gniezno doors and bear witness to Belgian influence, then predominating in Poland.

By the middle of the 13th century the gothic style inspired by French art spread through the country. It soon acquired distinctive local features. The Polish modification of gothic is known as *Vistula gothic*. Its clear formulation was achieved by the middle of the 14th century and it is best represented in the *Church of Our Lady* in Cracow (1226-1442). Vistula gothic is characterized by the use of brick for the walls, stone being used only for the constructive and decorative parts. The brick walls, while lofty, are massive and solid. The buttresses are directly in contact with the walls and do not need to be reinforced by the flying buttresses so typical of French gothic. The windows, while ogival, are relatively small. These churches often resemble fortified castles. Multicolored



WILNO CATHEDRAL, Wawrzyniec Architect. Late 18th cent.

bricks, arranged in decorative patterns, enliven the outer surfaces.

Polish gothic wooden sculpture reached a high degree of perfection during the 14th and 15th centuries, and is marked by deep expressiveness. The faces of the human figures are strongly imbued with feeling and lyric mood. Religious in kind and destined for the churches, sculpture developed in cities, where artists and craftsmen were organized into guilds. The evolution of Polish late medieval sculpture received a powerful impulse by the creative work of Wit Stwosz, or Stosz (ca. 1445-1533). Among the many masterpieces executed by him in Cracow at least the gigantic wooden polychromed altar piece (1477-1489) at the *Church of Our Lady* ought to be mentioned. The influence of Wit Stwosz on Polish sculpture lasted far into the 16th century.

Italian renaissance was introduced in Poland by King Sigismund I and is often referred to as the *Cracow renaissance*. This monarch entrusted the rebuilding of the medieval royal castle on the Wawel Hill at Cracow to an architect known in Poland as Franciszek Włoch (*Włoch* meaning the *Italian*), who constructed a three-story colonnade of arcades around the castle's courtyard (1502-1516). Another Italian, Bartolomeo Berecci, built the much admired Sigismund Chapel (1517-1533) attached to the medieval Wawel Cathedral.

Following the example of the king, many Polish notables and Polish towns brought architects from Italy to erect or rebuild castles and city halls in the style of the Italian renaissance. However, these ar-

chitects soon succumbed to local influences. They enhanced the picturesqueness of their buildings by adding certain architectural details, especially placing high ornamental attics over the top stories. These fanciful parapets, constituting a vivid expression of the decorative predilections of the Polish people, and known today as the *Polish attics*, soon became a typical feature of renaissance buildings throughout Poland.

Above all, dwelling houses in small towns developed a late renaissance ornamental style of their own, still flourishing at the beginning of the 17th century. The houses in Kaz-



CHRIST. Early 14th cent. wood sculpture in Starogard, Pomerania.

mierz-on-the-Vistula provide a good example of this style. Besides the crowning attics, all have facades covered with multiple linear decorations. At the same time, a modified gothic style persisted still in small wooden country churches.

The evolution of Polish renaissance sculpture may best be followed in sepulchral monuments. Of the Italian sculptors carving tombs in Poland, Giovanni Maria Padovano was the most influential toward the beginning of the 16th century; of the Polish, Jan Michalowicz of Urzedow, active from 1553 to 1582.

While 16th-century architecture and sepulchral sculpture both enjoyed the patronage of the Polish kings and notables, wooden church sculpture remained in the hands of guild masters, who held more or less fast to the traditions of Polish gothic. Especially in provincial towns sculpture was only slightly influenced by the new currents. Nonetheless, the guilds produced many a true masterpiece during the first half of the 16th century.

By the middle of this century, the guilds, deprived of the patronage of the wealthy, began to decline. Yet, throughout the country, for many decades to come, they created religious art, which although to a certain extent primitive in character, excites our interest as a Polish art manifestation completely free from direct foreign influence. In this city guild art, the national characteristic features were manifested more freely and distinctly than in other, more mature but less independent trends of Polish art of the time. The Polish guild sculptures of the period are marked by a naive yet re-

(Please turn to page 10)

POLISH ARCHITECTURE AND SCULPTURE OF PAST CENTURIES

(Continued from page 9)

freshing sincerity of expression. To form an altar piece, expressive figures of saints in flat or full relief were placed against sumptuously ornamented backgrounds and created vivid, picturesque ensembles.

Notwithstanding the traditional tendency of Polish provincial art, Italian baroque architecture found its way to Poland at an early date, as witness the *Church of SS. Peter and Paul* in Cracow, built in 1597-1619 by Gian Maria Bernardone and J. Trevano, greatly inspired by the *Il Gesù* in Rome. Italian baroque churches soon became popular in Poland. By the end of the 17th century and the beginning of the 18th, certain local innovations were introduced. Along with an ornamental treatment of the facade, an exuberance of sculptured interior decoration became characteristic. This style reached a peculiarly high level in 18th century churches of Wilno and Lwow, famed for their decorative rococo sculptures.

Baroque also influenced the style of the Polish palaces. Here it soon appeared in a polonized form, readily recognized in the royal palace at Wilanow (1677-1694), the favorite residence of king John Sobieski, built by an Italian under the king's personal supervision. The Wilanow palace is low and stretches wide like the Polish noblemen's wooden country mansions, these themselves being an enlargement and enrichment of the simpler peasant dwellings based on age old traditions.

From the middle of the 17th century until the end of the 18th the inter-European trends in sculpture came to be represented almost exclusively by foreign royal court art, and that developing at the palaces of the Polish aristocracy and in some wealthier monasteries. This foreign art acquired such importance that it gave little chance to develop to the more popular sculptures of the guilds. Nonetheless, native art did not die: It withdrew to the peasants' quarters. The oldest preserved figures of saints carved in wood by peasants to be placed in small wooden country churches and in wayside shrines, and which came to full bloom about 100 years ago, date from the 18th century. However, there exist intimations that they were created already during the afore-going century, if not even earlier. These peasant carved holy images combine as a rule strongly prevailing gothic elements with baroque and rococo styles. They are strikingly expressive, attaining a high degree of beauty within their primitive forms.

The second half of the 18th century witnessed a flowering of Polish art comparable in kind to that during the *Cracow renaissance*. The center of this movement was Warsaw, the new capital of Poland; the great protector of the arts being the last king of Poland, Stanislas Augustus. The *Lasienki Summer Palace* in Warsaw, built and decorated in 1784-88 by Italian and French artists in strict co-operation with the king, is the most outstanding example of the Polish late 18th century classicism, known as the *Stanislas Augustus style*, combining French rococo reminiscences with predominating Roman Palladian elements. The famous interiors of the

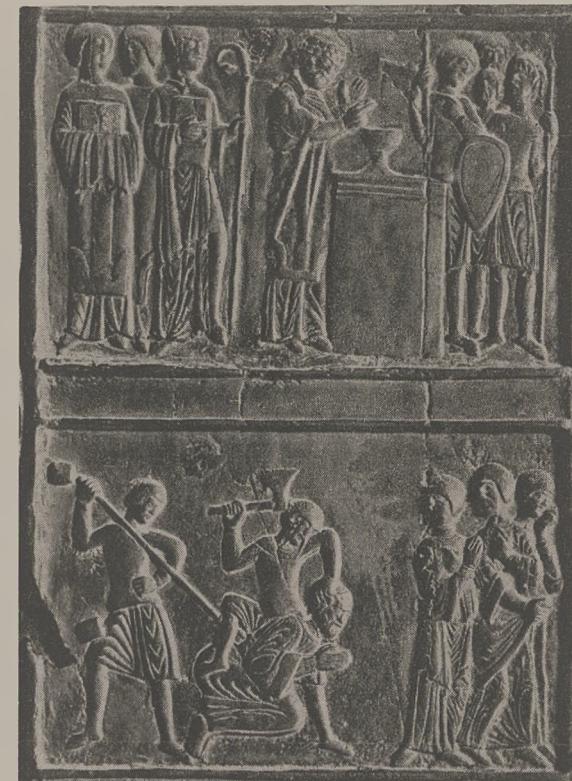


Old houses in Kazimierz-on-the-Vistula. Early 17th cent.

often reconstructed *Royal Castle* in Warsaw, often referred to as *Zamek*, which means *castle*, now in ruins, were executed in the same style. They abounded in fine decorative reliefs and in sculptures in the round.

This Warsaw classicism, when reaching other Polish towns and cities, underwent local changes. In Wilno, where one of the most eminent Polish architects of all the times, Wawrzyniec (Lawrence) Gucewicz (1753-98) was active, it acquired an almost Grecian purity of style. The *Wilno Cathedral* is proof of this. Many other Polish architects distinguished themselves during the Stanislas Augustus period.

The tragedy of the Polish partitions toward the end of the 18th century severely handicapped the evolution of Polish architecture and sculpture during the 19th century. Architecture and sculpture suffered most of all branches of Polish art in partitioned Poland. They had no chances to develop in a subdued country. Yet, Polish architects and sculptors produced many a beautiful building and statue during the past century. Especially noteworthy are the early 19th century buildings, reminding one of the severe classicism of the late 18th century. Then, as throughout Europe, the various "historical" styles followed. Similar trends might have been noticed in 19th century sculpture. It was chiefly in painting that the creative spirit of the Polish nation expressed itself freely during the past century.



Scenes from the life of St. Adalbert. Fragment of bronze doors (circa 1127), Gniezno Cathedral.

However, at the turn of that century new ideas were born in the minds of some enlightened Polish artists and art critics, and were destined to have a most decisive influence on the development of Polish architecture and sculpture in the 20th century. It was the versatile genius Stanislaw Wyspianski (1869-1907), a most original poet, painter, decorator, and architectural designer, who during a period of international eclecticism in architecture, turned his attention, and that of his generation, to the beauty of the wooden homesteads and churches built by the Polish peasants, and foresaw how these peasant architectural forms could be applied

to monumental buildings and could help to create a national style in modern Polish architecture. Wyspianski's views were supported by a number of other artists of his time and by the studies and publications of some eminent writers, who became enamoured of the long forgotten art of the Polish peasants. While Wyspianski's architectural designs have remained on paper, his efforts and those of his contemporaries in other fields were not wasted, but brought ample fruit as soon as Poland regained her freedom and new opportunities were given to Polish architects, sculptors, and Polish artists in general.

DEPORTEES FROM POLAND

(Continued from page 4)

Cross of both countries as well as by the Polish Red Cross and the Polish Relief Fund in London. These were distributed at the Polish Social and Health Centre which was organized by delegates of the Polish Embassy. Nurseries, Children's homes, Feeding Centres, and Schools were opened. The children were worn out by two years of malnutrition, but they gradually began to recover and to learn to read and write. Their teachers had neither books nor paper, but taught the children orally and they learnt to write on the bark of birch trees.

The men and women who reached Kuibyshev on foot or by trains mostly arrived in a state of collapse. They had traveled either on foot or by train from the far northern districts of Archangel and Vologda under appalling conditions, sometimes waiting at stations from one to twenty days, and often wandering for weeks before they reached Kuibyshev. Most of them were suffering from chills and dysentery and were emaciated and exhausted from lack of food, which had consisted only of raw potatoes and unboiled water, with the result that many contracted serious stomach and bowel disorders. Open wounds were seen on their legs and hands owing to the lack of food and vitamins. Measles had become an epidemic among the children, frequently followed by bronchitis and pneumonia. The child mortality was extremely high as they had no resistance to fight such diseases as diphtheria, meningitis, trachoma, and typhus, which had also broken out. Many of them had died on the journey, and one family lost five children on the way.

In July, 1942, however, the Russian authorities began to arrest members of these Polish organizations and relief depots, and since January, 1943, all social outposts of the Polish Embassy have been closed down. All food, clothing, and medical stores, which had been sent from England, America, and other countries, have not been allowed to be further distributed. All Polish nurseries, children's homes, and schools, have been closed and the Polish staffs removed. The children have been sent to Soviet institutions to be brought up as Communists.

Apparently the Russian explanation of this is that all Polish people, men, women, and children, now in Russia have been proclaimed Soviet citizens. They have been forced to accept Russian passports by the Soviet militia, some of those who refuse being imprisoned and deprived of food and water, or



Reunion in Iran.

in any case losing their right to work or to ration cards. No more Polish people are allowed to leave Russian territory or to join the Polish and Allied Armies in the Middle East.

"We work here as wood-cutters in the forest. What we earn is hardly sufficient for bread and as our pay is often delayed, we starve for whole weeks. We live principally on bread and water; unfortunately there is never enough bread . . . we have no winter clothes, our hands, feet, and noses are frost-bitten. There is very little room at night, hardly 1½ square metres per person. Lots of bugs, masses of gnats; our arms and legs are covered with wounds from bites. In summer I work on a raft like a galley-slave."

—Extract from a letter by a 50-year-old Polish woman teacher of science and geography, deported to Siberia.

POLISH MERCHANTMEN SERVING IN THE WAR



In the steering room.

THE Polish Merchant Navy continued its activities abroad from the very instant events made it impossible to carry on in Poland.

After the last war Poland realized the importance of her access to the sea and the necessity for a merchant fleet, and the tariff war started by Germany against Poland in 1925 emphasized these facts. Poland accepted Germany's challenge, and despite difficulties began to build ships and sea ports at Gdynia and Tczew. Every effort was made to enlarge Gdynia as quickly as possible. This, in turn, helped to develop Polish export trade, and made Poland less dependent on imports from Germany.

In 1935, Poland won her ten year tariff war with Germany. Money saved on freight charges, that would have been paid to the German railways for the carriage of goods from Poland to German ports, covered all construction costs at Gdynia. In 1939 the port installations at Gdynia were still being expanded and Poland's merchant fleet was growing, when war suddenly interrupted these achievements. Another port at Wladyslawow was already under construction when the war broke out, and in the autumn of 1939 work was to have begun on the port of Mechlinki.

In the autumn of 1939, the Polish Merchant Navy had more than 135,000 gross tons and more than 20,000 gross tons were under construction. A further 30,000 gross tons were on order for delivery before the end of the year. The deep sea fishing fleet was also being modernized and enlarged.

As a result of the war, the Polish Merchant Navy suffered exceptionally severe losses, most of her larger vessels have been war casualties.

The Polish Merchant Fleet could do but little in the

Baltic during the German invasion of Poland. Deprived of a safe harbor and the protection of the Polish Navy and Air Force, without allies in the Baltic, the Polish Merchant Fleet was doomed right from the start, and the greater part of Polish Merchant vessels were sunk in the Baltic in the early days of the war.

The *S.S. Torun* was sunk in the entrance to Gdynia to bar the way for enemy pursuit ships and submarines. The *S.S. Gdynia*, a passenger ship, was sunk by an enemy torpedo while carrying men and material to the Hel peninsula on the Polish coast.

Small Polish freighters in the Baltic fought to the bitter end. Some of them went to the bottom while others were taken over by the Germans. Other ships carrying Swedish ore to Gdynia never reached their destination. After the fall of Gdynia and Hel, Polish ships fought at the side of the Allies. Many of them finally reached friendly ports, but all without exception underwent experiences of which we do not care to speak.

The *S.S. Poznan*, for instance, was in the Swedish port of Lulea when the war broke out. Surrounded by German ships the *Poznan* managed to slip out of the port and leave the Baltic with the *S.S. Slask* and the *M.S. Rozewie*.

Only the training ship "Dar Pomorza" remained in the Baltic. It was interned in Stockholm. The Germans announced that the *Dar Pomorza* was torpedoed and sunk although it still stands in the Stockholm port, a mute refutation of the German lie.

Five other Polish ships left Goeteborg. They moved through the territorial waters of Norway and Sweden until they reached Bergen. From there under the protection of



Drying lifeboat sails is one of a seaman's many duties.

the British Navy the Polish ships sailed for British ports. There they joined the other Polish merchantmen.

Throughout the winter of 1939 and the spring of 1940 Polish merchant vessels sailed the Atlantic and the Mediterranean carrying Poles from Constanza, the Pireus and Split to Marseilles and Syria. Thus with the help of the Polish Merchant Navy, recruits were brought to the Polish armies organized in France and in the Middle East. There it was that the Polish Merchant Navy suffered its first major loss. The *M.S. Pilsudski* was sunk by a mine. This disaster was followed by other grave losses during the Norway expedition, when Polish ships without anti-aircraft defense supplied ammunition and later evacuated troops under a heavy rain of enemy bombs.

At the fall of France the Polish merchantmen left the dangerous waters of France before Germany or the Vichy authorities could act. Those caught in French African ports escaped to Britain.

Since then the Polish Merchant Fleet has been working with the British fleet.

On armed Polish ships her ensign flies side by side with the British ensign wherever convoys sail for the freedom of the seas.

The *S.S. Warszawa* offers an example of the part the Polish Merchant Navy is playing in this war. The *Warszawa* sailed in the Mediterranean for more than two years. She carried ammunition to Greece and, when the Germans moved in, evacuated Allied troops. The *Warszawa* was at Crete also—at the most critical time she carried troops and ammunition to Cyprus and Syria and brought men and ammunition to besieged Tobruk in 1940-1941. The *Warszawa* was sunk on active service. It took two torpedoes to finish her off.

Other Polish merchantmen have taken part in operating on the Indian Ocean and for the first time the Polish ensign was seen in the Far East.

Now Polish ships sail regularly between England and Scotland transporting coal, food and ammunition. They also go to Ireland and Iceland. Many other Polish ships sail to Russia to deliver lend-lease material. Most Polish merchantmen, however, work on the two most important supply lanes of this war, on the Atlantic between America and Britain and between Gibraltar and Africa. Polish ships are such frequent visitors at Gibraltar that Polish newspapers can be bought on the streets.

The Polish Merchant Navy took part in every landing operation in the Western theatre of war. It was in Norway, at Dieppe. In the Madagascar operations the first divisions of British Commandos were landed in Diego Suarez by the Polish *M.S. Sobieski*. Polish ships also took part in the landing operations in North Africa. Throughout the North African campaign they supplied men, equipment and ammunition to front-line ports.

Then came the Sicilian campaign. An American journalist who covered the operation wrote that the Polish flag seemed to be everywhere. It was hard to believe, he wrote, that the Polish Merchant Navy is so small.

The splendid record of the Polish Merchant Navy is due in the main part to the tireless efforts of officers and sailors, who for four years have braved all weathers and all dangers. Because of their work the Polish Merchant Navy has won a reputation for steadfast devotion to duty.



Relaxing between emergency steering wheels.

A British Admiral, commanding Allied naval forces in the southern Atlantic, thanking the captain of the Polish *S.S. Narvik* for rescuing more than 1,000 men from a torpedoed British ship, called the operation "worthy of the highest British sea tradition."

During the Battle of Britain, when British children were being evacuated to safety in the Dominions, the Polish *M.S. Batory* carried some 500 of them. After many adventurous weeks in U-boat infested areas, the ship finally reached Australia. For a farewell to their sea friends the British children sang the Polish National Anthem in Polish. A touching tribute indeed.

Every effort is being made to reconstruct the Polish Merchant Navy while the war is still on, and as far as possible to increase the tonnage beyond the figure of the Fall of 1939.

Under pre-war plans Poland aimed to reach a total of 650,000 gross tons by the end of 1943. It has been decided that if Polish economic needs are to be covered after the war and if even forty to fifty percent of her sea trade is to be carried under the Polish flag, she must possess a Merchant Navy of at least 850,000 gross tons.

Poland is already replacing her lost tonnage. During August 1943 she acquired two fine merchantmen, bringing the present total to 30 ocean going vessels and a gross tonnage equal to what it was at the outbreak of the war.

During this war the Polish Merchant Navy has proved beyond all doubt Poland's right to a sea coast and to the freedom of the seas.

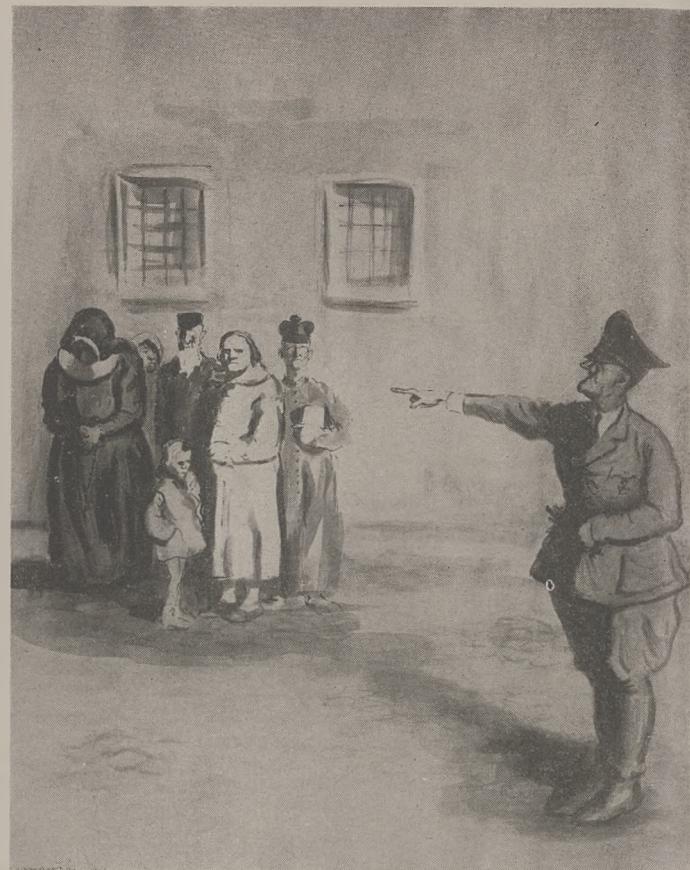
CZERMANSKI'S ART EXHIBIT

ZDZISLAW CZERMANSKI is one of the leading Polish artists now in the United States. He first attracted the attention of the American public in 1931, when his drawings appeared in *Fortune Magazine*. When the war broke out Czermanski, returned to the United States, and continued his work here. He has just completed a series entitled "Famous and Infamous," which was shown at the Gallery of Modern Art, 18 East 57th Street, New York City, from September 27 to October 9, 1943. They are a graphic summary of the events of this war. He drew his inspiration from people and their activities. He registers the changing moods and historical events with great sensitivity, from Hitler affixing to the mutilated walls of a city the deed of his own destruction, up to the bloodthirsty change in the leadership of the Reich.

Then there are: mutilated cripples in a hospital, a population in rags, a forlorn orphanage of traitors, the buffoonery of Mussolini, puffed-up German generals goose-stepping towards a prison camp, Warsaw heroically fighting off the treacherous invader, the victorious troops of General Montgomery parading against the background of the pyramids, the undaunted Chetniks of Mikhailovich watching in the mountains for the enemy, De Gaulle with a firm arm supporting the future of France, Churchill with every thought, watching on the ramparts of England, the flags of the United Nations around the memorial of Lincoln, the advocate of freedom and justice for all.

Czermanski combines sharp and biting sarcasm with pathos. He has developed his own technique. He achieves effects by an economy of color and line that unfortunately loses much in a black and white reproduction. His lines are as fine as in Chinese drawings and he uses color to attain highlights on a white paper background. The delicate tracery of his pen combined with his pastel shades produce a dramatic effect that could not be achieved by a more generous use of the pen and paintbrush.

The "Art News" (New York, N. Y.) of October 1-14 speaks of Czermanski's watercolor drawings as follows: "Ripping apart Hitler's Europe on the barbed wire of his wit, Czermanski is extremely skillful at "welding" caption and cartoon. A fluid brush, a bold line, and a brightly spotted pattern give his style the immediacy so essential to this sort of work."



THEY are to blame! By Zdzislaw Czermanski.

"*J'accuse*" (They are to blame) shows Hitler pointing an arrogant finger at a group of harmless civilians. But it is their silent figures that are a mute accusation of Hitler's crime. Here the effect is achieved by contrast—German impudence and self-evident innocence.

Mr. Czermanski is now working on a cycle of cartoons for a series of articles on Washington at War, written by John Dos Passos, which are to appear in *Fortune Magazine*.

POLES LECTURING AT



Professor Waclaw Lednicki

EVERY year the Lowell Institute of Boston, Mass., gives a series of free public lectures in Boston. This year—the one hundred and third season—*Waclaw Lednicki*, Ph.D., Professor of History of Russian Literature in the University of Cracow and Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures in the University of Brussels, now Visiting Lecturer on Slavic in Harvard University, has been invited to give a course of eight lectures on "The Life and Culture of Poland in Polish Literature": 1. Interpretations of Polish History. 2. Political Ideals. 3. Religion and National Life. 4. Squires and Peasants. 5. The National Poet: Mickiewicz. 6. The

AMERICAN INSTITUTES

Uprooted. Part I. 7. The Uprooted. Part II. 8. Polish Traits.

Professor Lednicki's lectures are delivered on Tuesdays and Fridays at 8 p.m., beginning Tuesday, October 19, in the Lecture Hall of the Boston Public Library.

Professor Lednicki is the third Pole upon whom this honor has been bestowed, the other two having been Wincenty Lutoslawski, internationally famous professor of philosophy and founder of a school of philosophy, and Bronislaw Malinowski, world-famous anthropologist.

The New York University School of Education has announced a new course, "Nationality Problems and Their Educational Implications in the Post-War World," to be given on Monday evenings at 6:15 P.M., beginning October 11. The course is conducted by Dr. Feliks Gross, Secretary-General of the Central and Eastern European Planning Board, Editor-in-chief of "New Europe," and a former collaborator of the late Professor Bronislaw Malinowski.

Front page: A village church in Rabka, Southern Poland.

RACZKIEWICZ GIVES THANKS TO EDINBURGH

At the inauguration of the fourth term of the Polish Medical Faculty at Edinburgh, the President of the Polish Republic said:

"Events augur well for the fourth year of the Polish Medical section in Edinburgh. It seems to me that this year may be the last in which we shall avail ourselves of the hospitality of this world famous centre of medical science. The foresight, the generosity and the wise judgment of the senate of Edinburgh University, of its rector, and of the dean of its Medical Academy made it possible for us, three years ago to open our Polish medical school.

"I have watched its development with undiminished interest. When I look back at the achievements of the last three years it seems to me that not only founding of this institution but its development and growth which we observe today are proof of the value of the achievements that were at first regarded rather in the light of an experiment. This adds fresh laurels to the fame of Edinburgh University. It has stretched out its brotherly hand to Polish culture and science and given protection to Polish Medicine, against the greatest assault of barbarism in the world. Today the future looks brighter, we may hope it will not be long before we can transfer our medical section to our liberated motherland. I am convinced, however, that the friendship born of close cooperation between our two nations at this famous university will continue to exist in the future and will not decrease when, after our victory over our common enemy, we shall return to our homeland. Mr. Rector, Mr. Dean and Professors, I thank you on behalf of the Polish Republic."

POLAND HONORS FOUR SCOTSMEN

President Raczkiewicz, during his recent visit to Scotland, decorated four outstanding representatives of the Scottish community: General Sir Andrew Thorne, General Officer Commanding in Scotland, Sir Patrick Dolan ex-Lord Provost of Glasgow, and Sir Henry Steel ex-Lord Provost of Edinburgh were made Knight Commanders of Polonia Restituta and Colonel Harold Mitchell, Commander.

On the 1st of October a death sentence was carried out on the notorious Sturmfuehrer Westel, commandant of the women section of the Pawiak prison.

SWIT UNDERGROUND POLISH RADIO

SWIT reports that the Volksdeutsche in Western Poland show a distinctly unfriendly attitude towards the Germans who arrive from the Reich warning them that vengeance of the Poles is unavoidable and trying to persuade them to return to Germany.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that at a meeting of German settlers in Lithuania the Reichskomissar Vonrentelen urged them to remain on the spot. He declared that the evacuation of the Ukraine by German settlers could be repeated in the Baltic countries and that any attempt to leave the Eastern lands was tantamount to desertion.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that in Warsaw, early one morning this month A Polish boy made a mistake and entered a trolley car on the side reserved for Germans. An SS man ordered him to jump off at the corner of Filtrawa and Sucha Streets when the car was moving at full speed. The boy hesitated. The German drew his revolver and shot the boy who fell on the pavement. The SS man ordered the car to stop and fired more shots at the boy who died. The Directorate of Civilian Residence was notified about the incident and has announced that the criminal will be punished.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the Germans have utterly failed to Germanize Lodz where the majority of the Polish population resists all attempts to have the German language imposed. The Polish language dominates in the streets of Lodz. Morale of the German population which came to Lodz, as well as among the Volksdeutsche is constantly deteriorating. They fake Polish documents to avoid conscription in the German Army and even enlist as Poles for labour in Germany, learning Polish to conceal their German origin.

V.V.V.

SWIT referring to rumours of a separate German-Russian peace says they are of German origin. German leaders know that the war is lost, but carry on to save their own heads. The rumours are trial balloons to ascertain world reaction. Terrorist methods have been applied to the peoples of the U.S.S.R. particularly Ukrainians and in the Kuban, and Leningrad districts. Bestialities committed by Germans against Soviet prisoners exclude the possibility of any Soviet negotiations with Hitler.

V.V.V.

SWIT says the unity of the Polish community in the fight against the occupants is most apparent in Warsaw where the population is fully conscious of its responsibility. The people of Warsaw shelter, hide, cloth and feed unknown Poles working for underground organizations. When the German police carry out street raids the Warsaw people form a crowd to save hunted Polish underground soldiers.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that Polish underground soldiers attacked the German place station in Wilanow, killing six policemen. Several farms belonging to German colonists in Kempa Litoszewska have been burnt down and nine Germans were killed. Three men of a family named Wojcik were also killed because they had denounced three young Poles who were hiding before Germans. Following their denunciation, German police caught the three Poles and murdered them cruelly.

POLISH AIRMEN SAFE IN SWEDEN

Seven Polish airmen were interned in Sweden after a forced landing last week. A bomber's crew baled out from about one thousand feet near a church in the province of Halland.

All the men are uninjured and in good health but the aircraft was completely burnt after the crash. The accident took place at 6:30 A.M. The airmen said that on their return flight from Germany their plane was caught between cross fire from Denmark and Sweden. Their petrol was exhausted. The crew intended to land but was unable to find a suitable place on account of the thick fog. They decided to bale out.

POLISH NAVY LOSES "ORKAN"

The Polish Admiralty regrets to announce that the Polish destroyer "Orkan" has been lost in action against the enemy.

The "Orkan" was built in the British shipyard. She took part in escorting convoys to Russia, in the Battle of the Atlantic in operations with the British Home Fleet.

She formed part of the escort for H.M. King George when he inspected the fleet and patrolled the route taken by him to Africa. Finally the "Orkan" brought late Gen. Sikorski's remains from Gibraltar to England. During one of the operations on the Atlantic in which two U-boats were sunk, "Orkan" picked up 46 German survivors.

HOW GERMAN TYRANTS PAY THE PENALTY

Copies of "Czyn," a Polish underground paper, just in hand in London carry the following account of the execution by Polish patriots of a high German official sentenced to death by the Directorate of Civilian Resistance.

"Thursday we were told to prepare for action the following day. At 3:15 p.m. all of our men were assembled at the scene of action. The criminal was supposed to pass at 4:30, but it was 5:25 before we learned he was coming, accompanied by a police-escort.

"We had expected to catch him alone, but as things looked now, he was hunting us. A short conference ensued. Two proceeded immediately to a village behind the Germans, the rest drove in a lorry straight towards the approaching police. We advance slowly, the chauffeur and I in the front seat, two men standing behind, the rest lying at the bottom of the lorry. Suddenly I see the first policeman in the distance. But what is this? From the forests emerge one, two, three, four, five, the sixth is visible among the trees. Bad Luck!

"The lorry advances slowly. Our nerves are on edge. They are standing along the road. I throw back an order: 'Careful, there are more of them.' We approach the first German who is escort leader with revolver in hand. I seize mine, three shots ring out, all perfectly aimed. Now everything happens at lightning speed. I leap from the lorry run to the dead German and take his papers, documents and yeapons.

"We drive madly towards the village. Shooting lasts about 15 minutes. As we close in the order is given 'Grenades.'

FIRST SEA LORD TO MIKOLAJCZYK

Prime Minister Mikolajczyk congratulated Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham on the occasion of his appointment as First Sea Lord.

Admiral Cunningham replied: "Thank you for your very kind message of congratulation which I appreciate very much. I look forward to continuing in London that close cooperation with the Polish forces which I have always experienced and valued."

It has been reported that as reprisal for mass arrests of Poles by the Gestapo in Konskie the Polish underground surrounded the town, disabled the German police, killing two German constables and five Gestapomen.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT ON PULASKI

"Less than four months after the adoption of our Declaration of Independence, the Polish patriot, Casimir Pulaski, volunteered 'to hazard all for the freedom of America,' coming, as he himself declared, with 'nothing but the integrity of my heart and the fervency of my zeal.' By his valorous conduct in the engagements at Brandywine and Germantown he proved the sincerity of that declaration. He was mortally wounded on October 9, 1779, while leading the celebrated Pulaski Legion at the siege of Savannah, and died two days later. Our debt to General Pulaski and to other foreigners who gave their lives on behalf of our cause can never be fully repaid.

"The banner of the Pulaski Legion bore the motto 'Union Makes Valor Stronger.' The United Nations, Poland and the United States among them, are now dedicated to a solemn and common task. It is fitting, therefore, that on October 11, 1943, the anniversary of Pulaski's death, and for the duration of the conflict in which we are now engaged, we constantly remind ourselves of the ideal which inspired Pulaski's Legion—that brave peoples can find increased strength in united action."